

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

Support for claim 14 is found on page 8, lines 13-14. Support for claim 15 is found on page 8, lines 14-16 of the specification. Support for claim 16 is found on page 8, line 21-22 of the specification. Support for claim 17 is found on page 8, lines 24-28 of the specification. Support for claim 18 is found on page 9, lines 21-22 of the specification. Support for claim 19 is found on page 5, lines 28-29 of the specification. Support for claim 20 is found on page 5, lines 31-33 of the specification. No new matter would be added to this application by entry of this amendment.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-20 will now be active in this application.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

The claimed invention is directed to a process for preparing diaminodiarylmethanes.

The rejection of claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph is respectfully traversed.

Applicant respectfully submits that the metes and bounds of the claimed invention are clear to those of ordinary skill in the art.

More particularly, the examiner has objected to the term “workup” as it appears in claim 1 as apparently undefined. Applicant respectfully submits that those of ordinary skill in the art would immediately appreciate the metes and bounds of workup in the context of post-neutralization of an acid catalyzed reaction of aromatic amine and methylene-donating agent in order to provide for a diaminodiarylmethane. As the acid catalyzed reaction of an aromatic amine with a methylene donating agent is known, post acid removal working up conditions toward the preparation of a diaminodiarylmethane would be clear to those of ordinary skill in the art. Suitable working up steps are described on page 8, line 13-16 of the specification and include for example, phase separation, distillation and/or chromatographic

separation methods. As the metes and bounds of the claimed invention are clear to those of skill in the art, withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

As to claim 2, the examiner objects to the phrase “prepared on the basis of” as undefined. Applicant respectfully submits that the term “prepared on the basis of” would be clear to those of ordinary skill in the art as descriptive of the materials used to prepare the adsorbent as either a higher oligomer of diphenolmethanediamine or a functionalized support material. Applicant’s specification on page 4, lines 12-23, makes clear the “prepared on the basis of” language by describing adsorbents of a higher oligomer of diphenolmethanediamine. As the metes and bounds of the phrase “on a basis of” is clear to those of ordinary skill in the art, the claim is not indefinite and accordingly withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

As to claim 6, the examiner objects to the use of the term “semicontinuously” as unclear as undefined. Applicant respectfully submits that the term “semicontinuously” as used in the context of a chemical reaction is clear to those of ordinary skill in the art such as the metes and bounds of the claimed invention are clear to those of ordinary skill in the art. As **evidence** of the well-known meaning of the term “semicontinuous”, a search of the USPTO patent database has identified 162 patents in which the phrase “semicontinuous” **appears in the claims**. Applicant attaches herewith a printout of the first 50 patents identified in the search. As the term “semicontinuous is well-known in the chemical reaction arts, the metes and bounds of the claimed term are clear to those of skill in the art and accordingly withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

As to claim 10-12, applicant has now rewritten claims 10-12 to recite, where appropriate a methylene-donating agent and an aromatic amine of aniline. In view of applicant’s amendment, withdrawal of these grounds of rejections is respectfully requested.

Applicant has corrected the informality in claim 11 identified by the examiner.

Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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| PAT. NO. | Title |
|--------------|---|
| 1 7,329,748 | T Method for the production of riboflavin of modification b/c in granular form |
| 2 7,319,173 | T Process for preparing fluorohalogenethers |
| 3 7,230,130 | T Process for preparing methylenedianiline and methylenebis (phenylisocyanate) |
| 4 7,214,833 | T Process for preparing perfluoropolyethers |
| 5 7,208,638 | T Process for preparing fluorohalogenethers |
| 6 7,186,867 | T Process for preparing reactive polyether polyols having an ethylene oxide end block |
| 7 7,169,265 | T Method for manufacturing resin-impregnated endless belt and a belt for papermaking machines and similar industrial applications |
| 8 7,166,196 | T Method for manufacturing resin-impregnated endless belt structures for papermaking machines and similar industrial applications and belt |
| 9 7,157,600 | T Process for preparing (per) fluorohalogenethers |
| 10 7,153,473 | T Hemostatic system and components for extracorporeal circuit |
| 11 7,147,833 | T Method for producing hydrogen peroxide from hydrogen and oxygen |
| 12 7,132,574 | T Preparation of perfluoropolyethers having at least one --CH₂OH or --CH(CF₃)OH end group |
| 13 7,126,033 | T Method for isomerizing allyl alcohols |
| 14 7,123,359 | T Optical devices and methods employing nanoparticles, microcavities, and semicontinuous metal films |
| 15 7,094,831 | T Aqueous polymer dispersion |
| 16 7,019,177 | T Process for preparing fluorohalogenethers |
| 17 7,014,735 | T Method of fabricating a belt and a belt used to make bulk tissue and towel, and nonwoven articles and fabrics |

- 18 7,008,513 **T** Method of making a papermaking roll cover and roll cover produced thereby
- 19 7,005,044 **T** Method of fabricating a belt and a belt used to make bulk tissue and towel, and nonwoven articles and fabrics
- 20 6,936,722 **T** Polyhalogenated ethers
- 21 6,930,291 **T** Adhesive or sealant composition including high efficiency heating agents and methods of use
- 22 6,883,070 **T** Bandwidth-adaptive, hybrid, cache-coherence protocol
- 23 6,855,256 **T** Hybrid chemical and biological process for decontaminating sludge from municipal sewage
- 24 6,835,856 **T** Process for preparing fluorohalogenethers
- 25 6,831,192 **T** Process for preparing methylenedianiline and methylenebis(phenyl isocyanate)
- 26 6,765,072 **T** PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF AQUEOUS DISPERSIONS OF LATEX PARTICLES HAVING A HETEROGENEOUS MORPHOLOGY, THE LATEX PARTICLES OBTAINABLE WITH THE PROCESS, THE DISPERSIONS AND REDISPERSIBLE POWDERS, AS WELL AS THE USE THEREOF
- 27 6,752,978 **T** Method for producing hydrogen peroxide from hydrogen and oxygen
- 28 6,733,471 **T** Hemostatic system and components for extracorporeal circuit
- 29 6,713,177 **T** Insulating and functionalizing fine metal-containing particles with conformal ultra-thin films
- 30 6,700,020 **T** Semi-continuous method for producing 4,4'-dihydroxydiphenyl sulfone
- 31 6,686,655 **T** Low profile multi-IC chip package connector
- 32 6,677,559 **T** Thermoset heating composition including high efficiency heating agents and methods of use
- 33 6,673,960 **T** Work-up of distillation residues from the synthesis of toluene diisocyanate
- 34 6,653,503 **T** Microwave irradiation process for preparing methyl esters
- 35 RE37,972 **T** Manufacture of high precision electronic components with ultra-high purity liquids
- 36 6,486,546 **T** Low profile multi-IC chip package connector
- 37 6,433,219 **T** Method for the production of methylenedi(phenylamine and methylenedi(phenyl isocyanate)
- 38 6,423,163 **T** Process for the manufacture of a free-cutting aluminum alloy
- 39 6,420,505 **T** Process for preparing thiosulfate salt polymers
- 40 6,384,178 **T** Process for the preparation of polycarbonate diols with a high molecular weight
- 41 6,362,519 **T** Low profile multi-IC chip package connector
- 42 6,325,710 **T** Coated silicon nitride based cutting tools
- 43 6,322,613 **T** Process for the recovery of mercury from a gaseous mixture
- 44 6,269,112 **T** Electric arc furnace for continuous charging with ferrous materials and semicontinuous tapping of molten steel
- 45 6,258,623 **T** Low profile multi-IC chip package connector
- 46 6,253,832 **T** Device for casting in a mould
- 47 6,248,572 **T** Production of taxol from taxus plant cell culture adding silver nitrate
- 48 6,245,951 **T** Process for cleaning bisphenol pre-reactor
- 49 6,225,689 **T** Low profile multi-IC chip package connector
- 50 6,193,847 **T** Papermaking belts having a patterned framework with synclines therein

